



## **Skateboarding, Learning & the Built Environment**

Friday 17th May

UCL East Campus - One Pool Street Building

University College London and Goldsmiths are pleased to announce the inaugural edition of Common Grounds: a new symposium dedicated to understanding skateboarding through practice based research.

Common Grounds draws together multi-modal approaches to research across different disciplines, focusing on how skateboarding frames ideas relating to placemaking, community and learning. Alongside examining how participatory design can be used as a vehicle for fostering a legacy of ownership and belonging within skateable spaces.

Programming across the day will consist of a keynote presentation, three panel discussions, a film screening, and a tour of the nearby City Mill Pool Street skateable space. Common Grounds explores how creative and participatory approaches to community engagement can influence the design and use of public spaces, and how skate communities subsequently form around them.

The Common Grounds programme also seeks to generate a particular understanding of the embodied and sensory knowledges that contribute to our understanding of how learning takes place in skateable spaces.

Common Grounds confirmed speakers:

Iain Borden, UCL - author of Skateboarding and the City  
Bedir Bekar, UCL - architect and engineer and lecturer  
Ben Dixon, Goldsmiths - Postgraduate research, Goldsmiths Listening to skateboarding: a multimodal exploration of an urban development project in East London.  
Ben Borthwick - Curator @primedesignplymouth and Head of Programme at Karst  
Sheryl Clark, Goldsmiths - author of Skateparks as Communities of Care  
Tom Critchley - Goldsmiths - Postgraduate Research  
John Dahlquist - Vice Principal of The Bryggeriets Gymnasium School, Malmo  
Sam Elstub - Hackney Bumps and Betongpark - landscape architect  
Sam Griffin - artist and co-founder City Mill Skate  
Sander Holsgens, Leiden University - co-editor of Skate/Worlds: New Pedagogies for Skateboarding (w. Adelina Ong)  
Chris Lawton - Skateboard GB  
Stuart Maclure - Long Live Southbank and Betongpark  
Marie Mayassi - founder Melanin Skate Gals and Pals  
Harry Meadley - artist and director of Civic Skateboarding  
Paul O'Connor - Exeter University - author of Skateboarding and Religion  
Carrie Paechter - Nottingham Trent University - author of What's it like to be a girl skateboarder? (with Stoodley, Keenan and Lawton)  
Lucy Raemers - co-founder of The Ben Raemers Foundation  
Esther Sayers - Goldsmiths - co-founder City Mill Skate and author of Skateboarding, Time and Ethics

With remote interventions from:

Sophie Friedel - author of The Art of Living Sideways  
Indigo Willing, University of Sydney - author of Skateboarding, Power and Change (with Anthony Pappalardo)

The event is free and bookable on Eventbrite via the link below:

[Eventbrite: Common Grounds: Skateboarding, Learning, and The Built Environment.](#)

For further information please contact [esther.sayers@gold.ac.uk](mailto:esther.sayers@gold.ac.uk) or [sam.wilkinson@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:sam.wilkinson@ucl.ac.uk), or check [@citymillskate](#) for regular updates.

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